

**COVENANT**  
**of**  
***Friendship and Reconciliation***  
***Between the Great Dakota Nation and the City of Winona***

In the spirit of meetings between the various Dakota Nations, Tribes, Bands, and Communities of the Great Dakota Nation, (hereinafter Dakota Bands), and the people of the City of Winona, Minnesota, the Signatory Parties agree to the following on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 20\_\_:

**PURPOSE**

The Dakota Bands of the Mdewakanton, Wahpekute, Sisseton and Wahpeton and the City of Winona establish this Covenant as a solemn commitment to ongoing peace and friendship, and respectful resolution of conflicts past, present and future, including the recognition and acknowledgment of the Wahpekute Band, through direct communication, talk circles as needed, and ongoing commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation process that was co-created in 2004 for the yearly Dakota Gatherings and Homecomings in the City of Winona.

**FRIENDSHIP AND RECONCILIATION**

In consideration of the Purpose of this Covenant, the Signatory Parties shall have mutual access to: trade agreements, business ventures, support and resources; and mutual access to: history, culture, arts and crafts, dance and music, and celebration with each other into time eternal. The Signatory Parties shall support each other in the time of crisis and good fortune, and there shall be perpetual peace, friendship and compassion between the Dakota People and the people of the City of Winona.

**FUTURE**

The City of Winona shall make good faith efforts on its part to continue to bring forth good fortune in the celebration of the Dakota Gatherings and Homecomings; shall seek to preserve and protect the natural environment surrounding Winona, including known and discovered burial sites, artifacts and remains; and shall seek projects, business ventures, and joint enterprises that will empower the Dakota Bands to bring about increased revenue, accessible education, clean drinking water, appropriate nutrition, affordable health care and sustainable housing for the Dakota people. The Dakota Bands shall continue to share their history, customs and traditions at Dakota Homecomings and Gatherings to educate the people of the City of Winona, while protecting and preserving their sacred ceremonies; and to share the benefit of projects, ventures, culture, understanding and respect with all the people of the City of Winona.

As witnesses to the above vision, we the undersigned, on behalf of the respective Dakota Nations, Tribes, Bands and Communities of the Great Dakota Nation, as independent and sovereign nations, and the City of Winona, offer our signatures at the City of Winona.

Santee Sioux Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Wahpekute Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Fort Peck Sisseton Wahpeton Council Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Birdtail Sioux First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Dakota Plains Wahpeton First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Dakota Tipi First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Standing Buffalo First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Wahpeton Dakota Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Whitecap Dakota First Nation Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Upper Sioux Community Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Lower Sioux Indian Community Tribal Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor of Winona: \_\_\_\_\_

Winona-Dakota Unity Alliance, as Envoy for the City of Winona: \_\_\_\_\_